

NARCOTIC DRUGS

*Exchange of notes at Havana February 12 and March 7, 1930
Entered into force March 7, 1930*

Department of State files

The American Ambassador to the Cuban Secretary of State

No. 98

HABANA, February 12, 1930

EXCELLENCY:

Pursuant to the instructions of my Government, I have the honor to inquire whether it would be agreeable to the Government of Cuba to arrange for the establishment of a closer cooperation between the appropriate administrative officials of our two countries with a view to bringing about stricter control of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

The arrangement which I am instructed to present for the consideration of Your Excellency's Government contemplates:

- 1) The direct exchange between the Treasury Department of the United States and the corresponding office of Cuba of information and evidence with reference to persons engaged in the illicit traffic. This would include such information as photographs, criminal records, finger prints, Bertillon measurements, description of the methods which the persons in question have been found to use, the places from which they have operated, the partners they have worked with, etc.
- 2) The immediate direct forwarding of information by letter or cable as to the suspected movements of narcotic drugs, or of those involved in smuggling drugs, if such movements might concern the other country. Unless such information as this reaches its destination directly and speedily it is useless.
- 3) Mutual cooperation in detective and investigating work.

The officer of the Treasury Department who would have charge, on behalf of the United States Government of the cooperation in the suppression of the illicit traffic in narcotics is Colonel L. G. Nutt, whose mail and telegraph address is Deputy Commissioner in Charge of Narcotics, Treasury Department, Washington, D.C.

In case the proposed arrangement meets with the approval of the Government of Cuba, I should be grateful if I might be informed of the name of the Cuban official with whom Colonel Nutt should communicate.

In presenting this matter to Your Excellency's Government, I may state that the proposed informal arrangement has already been accepted by the Governments of sixteen countries, and as of interest in this connection, there is attached a copy of BULLETIN OF TREATY INFORMATION No. 5, July, 1929 containing the texts of the arrangements entered into between the United States and other Governments.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

HARRY F. GUGGENHEIM

His Excellency
DOCTOR RAFAEL MARTÍNEZ ORTIZ
Secretary of State,
Habana.

The Cuban Secretary of State to the American Ambassador

[TRANSLATION]

REPUBLIC OF CUBA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
No. 256

HABANA, *March 7, 1930*

MR. AMBASSADOR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's courteous note No. 98 dated the 12th instant [*sic*] by which it is requested that the Government of the Republic inform you whether it would be agreeable to the establishment of an arrangement for the purpose of making effective closer cooperation between the Cuban administrative officials and those of the United States, with a view to obtaining a stricter control of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs; and by which Your Excellency was also pleased to submit to the consideration of this Government the bases according to which an Agreement on the subject might be reached.

I am pleased to inform Your Excellency that the Government of Cuba has no objection whatever in agreeing to what may be conducive to the strictest control of the traffic in narcotic drugs. I shall shortly communicate to you the name of the Cuban official with whom the United States Commissioner, Colonel L. G. Nutt, should communicate for the purpose.

The Agreement to which Your Excellency refers might reinforce that which was concluded on March 11, 1926¹ between the United States and Cuba for the suppression of smuggling which Agreement is now in force.

I permit myself to call Your Excellency's attention to that Embassy's note of October 26, 1926, and this Department's reply of November 20 of the same year, which referred to the subject of the traffic in opium and to the

¹ TS 739, *ante*, p. 1144.

interest which the Government of the Republic has in its suppression and punishment by all the means at its disposal.

I avail myself of this opportunity, Mr. Ambassador, to repeat to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

RAFAEL MARTÍNEZ ORTIZ

To His Excellency

Mr. HARRY F. GUGGENHEIM,

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

of the United States of America.

etc., etc., etc. La Habana